



Workforce Development Professionals are everywhere!



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How did you get started in workforce development?

Like many other people in workforce development, finding a career in this industry just happened by chance. It is not anything that I set out to do, but will admit that I have enjoyed every minute since. While my children were growing up, I decided that I wanted to go back to school in another field. So I graduated from

Mount Olive College with a degree in Organizational Management and obtained a job as a workforce development professional. This was very different from the jobs I previously held in retail and as a home day care provider.

What is the most exciting thing about being a Workforce Development Professional?

The most exciting thing about being a workforce development professional is the constant change. Not a day goes by that is an exact replica of the day before. I love being a part of the changing landscape and feel that I can really make a difference. Even though I work at the administrative offices of the Capital Area Workforce Development Board, I know that my work has a direct impact on the services delivered through our One-Stop system. Over the past two years, we have undergone real change to a new Integrated Services Delivery Model in addition to the changes of the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. It has been challenging, exciting and at times frustrating, but it has

always been very rewarding to see the changes take shape. There is nothing more powerful than to see an innovative vision come to life. Then when you hear the stories of the many people who obtained employment as a result of the hard work it is very satisfying.

It is easy for these stories to get lost before they reach our office, but I always make a point of making sure to hear, as often as I can, the individual stories that go along with each name. It is important to keep each individual customer in mind and celebrate their successes as a result of the work we do.

What do you value most about your NAWDP membership?

Being a part of a hard-working, dedicated, and compassionate community is what I value most about my NAWDP membership. The membership provides me

with connections to other professionals in the field who bring a wealth of knowledge and experience second to none.

If you could give one piece of advice to a new workforce professional, what would it be?

I applied to become a Certified Workforce Development Professional to validate my commitment and dedication to this field. It is something I strongly believe in and can proudly say that I am a part of something so

extraordinary. It is an honor to be included with the many workforce development professionals across this nation.